

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (42) in DH SEB CD/8/6/1 Pt. 27

11 January 2012

Dear Doctor,

Alert Response Level for Avian Influenza

I would like to update you on the latest situation of avian influenza in Hong Kong.

The Government has activated the Serious Response Level since 20 December 2011 on detection of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza virus in a chicken carcass sample taken from the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market. Among other prevention and control measures, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) has completed medical surveillance on some 500 local chicken farmers, live poultry wholesalers and retailers. No abnormality was detected nor were symptoms of human H5N1 avian influenza infection found among them. No human H5N1 avian influenza case in Hong Kong has been found under the enhanced surveillance by CHP together with public and private hospitals.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and the Centre for Food Safety have taken samples from local farms and chilled chickens and all samples were tested negative for H5N1 avian influenza virus. There was also no further report of poultry infection with H5N1 avian influenza virus. In this connection, the Government decided to revert the influenza response level under the Framework of Government's Preparedness Plan for Influenza Pandemic from "Serious" to "Alert" Response Level on 12 January 2012.

Meanwhile, CHP will continue to closely monitor the local and global situation of avian influenza. Please be reminded that Influenza A (H5, H7, and H9) is a notifiable disease. Any suspected case meeting the reporting criteria (<https://ceno.chp.gov.hk/casedef/casedef.pdf>) should be reported to the Central Notification Office of CHP via fax (2477 2770), phone (2477 2772) or CENO On-line (www.chp.gov.hk/ceno). Please also contact the Medical Control Officer of the Department of Health at Pager: 7116 3300 call 9179 when reporting any suspected case.



Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S K Chuang', written in a cursive style.

(Dr. S K Chuang)
for Controller, Centre for Health Protection
Department of Health